Benjamin A Norris

FAMILY HISTORY Documentation

Age	Date:	Fact:	Document or Source of Information:
		Benny Norris shoots a cat & a cow	
		Benny becomes a Chore-boy for Nymphus Coridon Murdock & for Sally Stacy Murdock	

add pict of Nym Murdock & Sally Stacy

Meanwhile Nymphus was gaining a reputation as a shrewd trader and merchant. He usually came out best in any kind of a horse trade and was able to earn enough to allow he and his mother to live comfortably. Nymphus was 22 years old and was engaged to be married to a girl who had been hired to work at his home, to help Sally who was then becoming quite feeble. But the engagement was a stormy one, ending in a most unexpected way. N.C. Hanks described what happened. *"One day Nymphus went to work at his farm and forgot to leave any wood chopped for a fire to cook dinner. His intended took an axe and chopped his best ox yoke into stove wood. When Nymphus returned he was furious, and slapped her face. This ended their engagement but they continued to be friends for the rest of their lives."*[21]

Nymphus was also having his share of trouble with Benny Norris, who he said was becoming a little bit "touched" or eccentric as he grew up. Sally owned a large tomcat which she was quite proud of and one day the cat was sitting atop a pile of manure when Benny saw it and shot it. Sally was terribly upset and demanded to know why Benny had killed her pet. Benny said, *"The cat was saying his prayers and I'm sure he was asking God to let him come to heaven!"* One day a neighbor's cow broke down Sally's fence and was eating her corn. Nymphus was angry and said, *"I wish someone would kill that darned old cow!"* Benny took him at his word and shot the cow, and Nymphus had to pay the damages, $40![22]

Brigham Young wanted Joseph to spend more time watching over the church's livestock at Church Pastures so as early as 1850 Joseph had built a cabin

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21. Men of The Rockies, Pg. 52, Hanks, 1944. 47, 48

22. Ibid, Pg. 47.

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Age	Date:	Fact:	Document or Source of Information:
	1847-1858	Benjamin A Norris was virtually adopted by Joseph Stacy Murdock & raised by those families & the families of Nymphus Murdock & Sally.	→ "Advancing the Mormon Frontier = The Life & Times of Joseph Stacy Murdock — Pioneer, Colonizer Peacemaker" Dec 1987 2nd Edition. p66
		Elizabeth Hunter Murdock grew especially fond of "Benny" because he was so kind & helpful to the Murdock Family Mothers, & their Children	Ref Interview c Beth Murdock Ritchie & Hope M Mo[illegible]. See Also "Men of the Rockies" by N C Hanks p 47
			In[illegible]

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Joseph Stacy Murdock
Pioneer - Colonizer - Peacemaker
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